

**March 23-25, 2013**

**Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.**

**Matthew Schneider, Michigan Supreme Court Counsel and Chief of Staff, named a "Leader in the Law" by Michigan Lawyers Weekly**

[Press release](#)

**Detroit Free Press: Teen's life sentence overturned**

"A mandatory life sentence was overturned for a second teen convicted in the 2009 abduction and slaying of an Eastpointe sandwich shop customer. Robert Taylor, now 20, is to be resentenced, according to a Michigan Court of Appeals ruling Thursday. On Tuesday, the appeals court issued a similar opinion in the case of Taylor's codefendant, Ihab Maslamani."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**The Detroit News: No-parole sentence for second man in Eastpointe murder overturned**

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Free Press: Supreme Court agrees to hear Michigan affirmative action case**

"The U.S. Supreme Court will take a look at Michigan's ban on affirmative action, it was announced today. The court is already looking at the issue of race in university admissions in case out of Texas. Court watchers say the court could issue a ruling in that case this spring and still hear the Michigan case in the fall, depending on what the ruling is."

[Full story](#)

**Note: The article also ran in the Times Herald/Port Huron.**

**Also see:**

**The Detroit News: Supreme Court's affirmative action exam will include Michigan's case**

[Full story](#)

**Chicago Tribune: Supreme Court agrees to hear Michigan affirmative action case**

[Full story](#)

**Mlive.com: Michigan affirmative action case headed to U.S. Supreme Court**

[Full story](#)

**The Washington Post: Supreme Court accepts second case on race-based college admissions**

[Full story](#)

**WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Supreme Court will review fight over Michigan affirmative action ban**

[Full story](#)

**The Daily Tribune: COOK: Judge's decision irks cops but considers context**

"Three criminals walked out of the Macomb County courthouse shackle-free after separate sentencings one morning earlier this month. Michael Brooks, 38, formerly of Warren, got probation from Judge Peter J. Maceroni for his role in the death of his obese wife. Shane Spatafore, 17, of St. Clair Shores, avoided

incarceration from Judge Mary Chrzanowski for stabbing his friend during a drug-induced craze.... But the third case was controversial, even though the defendant could fit the same description as the other two.

[Full story](#)

### **Flint Journal: Genesee County child support program offers no-arrest promise and information**

"A program that aims to help parents with child support issues is offering a no-arrest promise for those who have outstanding Friend of the Court warrants. The program is from 3-5 p.m. Tuesday, March 26, at Cathedral of Faith , 6031 Dupont St., Flint."

[Full story](#)

### **Grand Rapids Press: Holland power plant: Appeals court finds in favor, but new energy plant on the horizon**

"The Michigan Court of Appeals ruled on Friday that state regulators legally approved the city of Holland's application to expand coal-burning capabilities at its James DeYoung power plant, according to the Associated Press."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Grand Haven Tribune: Court OKs new coal-fired unit at Holland plant**

[Full story](#)

### **The Holland Sentinel: Court of Appeals upholds James DeYoung power plant permit**

[Full story](#)

### **The Holland Sentinel: New scholarships available for Allegan County students interested in law**

"Four new scholarships are available to Allegan County students who are interested in the law. These scholarships, established in memory of Mr. and Mrs. William F. Baillargeon, honor the service and dedication of four judges that recently retired from the Allegan County 48th Circuit Court and 57th District Court. The applicant must be a student enrolled in an Allegan County high school with a desire to continue his or her education in the area of the law, social justice or criminal justice. The application deadline is April 17."

[Full story](#)

### **Ingham County Legal News: Probate Section topic: Hon. Richard J. Garcia-A view from the bench**

"Hon. Richard J. Garcia, Ingham County Probate Court Judge, opened his discussion of 'A view from the bench,' recommending that a lawyer 'approach going to court in a way that puts you in the shoes of the person sitting behind the bench.' "

[Full story](#)

### **Ingham County Legal News: Paperless courts: Michigan bill will establish SCAO policies, practices statewide**

"A measure to remove one of the last roadblocks to true paperless court records and filing, House Bill 4064, has passed the House and should be through the Senate and signed by Gov. Rick Snyder by summer."

[Full story](#)

### **Macomb County Legal News: Use of video arraignment technology expands**

"Macomb County has expanded its existing video arraignment system to work outside of the county borders. Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel said it's the result of a partnership with the state of Michigan that enables the courts to conduct judicial arraignments of in-custody defendants who are being held at local lockups, county jails, or statewide prison facilities.... The new service was funded by the state and has been implemented in a joint effort involving the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO), the 16th Judicial Circuit, Macomb County Probate courts, the Macomb County Sheriff's Office and the county's Information Technology Department."

[Full story](#)

### **The Macomb Daily: Michigan law to require cops to video record interviews**

"A new state law requires police agencies to video and audio record statements of those arrested for major crimes, although many of them already do. The new 'custodial interrogation' law, which takes effect Thursday, will improve the quality and efficiency of justice in Michigan, say attorneys from both prosecution and defense side."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **The MiLW Blog: New 'custodial interrogation' law to require police to video record interviews**

[Full story](#)

### **The MiLW Blog: Lapeer prosecutor named to circuit court bench**

"Lapeer County Prosecutor Byron Konschuh has been appointed to the 40th Circuit Court (Lapeer County) bench. Konschuh, who has been the county prosecutor since 2001, replaces Judge Michael Higgins, who has retired. His term will expire on Jan. 1, 2015. He must seek election in November 2014 to serve a full term."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **SBM Blog: Breaking: Byron J. Konschuh Appointed To 40th Circuit (Lapeer) Court**

[Full story](#)

### **Oakland County Legal News: Free seminar presented by Probate Court, April 9**

"On Tuesday, April 9, the Citizens Alliance for the Oakland County Probate and Circuit Courts will conduct a free seminar entitled 'Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court' at the Troy Community Center from 1 to 3 p.m."

[Full story](#)

### **Oakland County Legal News: Court reverses \$100K verdict for oil in home**

"The Michigan Supreme Court has thrown out a \$100,000 verdict for a woman whose home had to be demolished after the basement was mistakenly filled with heating oil."

[Full story](#)

### **SBM Blog: From The Bench To The Head Of State Social Services - A Trend?**

"When MICHigan Supreme Court Justice Maura Corrigan left the bench to become the director of Michigan's Department of Human Services even those who knew her deep and longstanding passion for child welfare were surprised. But she may have started something. Indiana Governor Mike Pence has just appointed a 31-year veteran juvenile court judge to head Indiana's Department of Child Services."

[Full story](#)

### **Three Rivers Commercial-News: Sobriety court seeing success**

"St. Joseph County has had good success with a sobriety court, which is now up to about 40 participants, District Judge Jeff Middleton told members of the Community Corrections Advisory Board at their meeting Wednesday."

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **The Times Herald/Port Huron: Courts going digital**

"When long-awaited legislation allows Michigan courts to go paperless, St. Clair County should be ahead of the game. Tim Cook, St. Clair County District Court administrator, said House Bill 4064 — the last bit of legislation that would allow for paperless courts — is expected to be signed by Gov. Rick Snyder this summer."

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Widow speaks out about Judge Bruce Morrow"**

"Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Bruce Morrow says JTC allegations of his misconduct from the bench are just not true, and, in a response to the formal complaint filed Thursday, he details why he thinks the complaint should be withdrawn. Meanwhile, a woman who saw Judge Morrow on the bench over a decade ago says the Judicial Tenure Commission complaint against him should be expanded."

[\*Full story\*](#)